

Local anusement sockers last week found a great diversity in the quality of the efferings at the different theatres, and it was a unique taste that could not be satisfied. The entertalament at the Na-tional. The Royal Family was the best specimen of the "smart comedy that has come to Washington for many a day, and the work of Miss Annie Russell and an the work of Miss Annie itersed and an exceptionally efficient supporting company was well-tigh perfect. Woshing-tentions evidently thought well of the play and organization, for the Rapley play-house enjoyed one of this best weeks of the season. At the Columbia, "The Bur gomaster" pleased a series of crowded houses, and while there was much lock-ing in the musical piece, from a critical viewpoint, the audiences were apparently well satisfied with the performances. "The Only Way." as presented by Mr. Beilews' company at the Lafayette Square, proved to be one of the most succompany at the lower order to be one of the most succeed to be one of the most succeed to be one of the most succeeding to be one of the stage country favorably with that showed in the temperature of the stage country favorably with that showed is fuller when the dramatikation lekens story was played here of the stage of the properties of the stage of

tendants of the drama, there is small to Burt and Company. Frederick Hurd, doubt but that big crowds will be attracted to the P Street theatre. The Natures will constitute the bill engaged for three billions. The Bijon-Trocadera Burlesquers. tional will present Ada Rehan in "Swest Chases this week.
Neil of Old Drary, the first of the At first rinner it numerous Nell Gwyn places to reach this but the first two named are entirely new trons of this house will have an opportu-city. The Lafayette company will revive here, but they have recently received admirable comedy. The Ama-warm commendation in other effices where action in its constrainment. none," while the Academy will put for-ther have appeared. Extra Kendall is ward "A Texas Steer," which is always like pool wine, and "needs to bush." He terial in its makeup to present a stricti sure of a cordial welcome in Washington Manager Chase's vandeville programme will be headed by Exts Rendall, and will lucinde a number of other players who are favorably known. The fillou will be occupied by the Tracadera buriesquera, while at the Lyceum the Rentz-Santley company will be seen.

# The National-Ada Behan.

"Sweet Nell of Old Druny," a play by Faul Restor, has made a pressure of a cose in Landon and Klaw & Erlanger have secured the American rights for Miss Ada Belan and will produce the drama for the first time in this city at the National Theorem this week, will multiness on Wednesday and Saturday.

has been presenting the piece during the last four years. Charies Dalron, the young herole actor, heads the organization and will be seen as Marcus Superbus, the Roman prefect, a role in which he has you high commendation from pression public. Others that will appear are W. E. Horney, T. A. Shannon, henry N. Wenman, George Floed, Harold West, H. T. Harris Edward Tie Corsi, Lillie Thurkow, Mande Warrilow, Meilta Brier, Agnes Scott, Mignam Shattinger, Rus Trokelle, and Bessie Toner.

Mr. Birrott, who undurstands as few others on how to effectively stage and footume as play, has never done better work in that the than in The Sign of the Cross. The most successful of his numerous productions. Rome past before its dewirfall, when we and produgality ruled the kingaror and his count, and whon a little band of lowly believers in the new faith of Christanity were hunded like wild beasts and put to death in the Roman arena for the ammended like wild beasts and put to death in the Roman arena for the ammended is the control idea around which the story is constructed, a story that tells of the gradual winning ore; of a man to the faith of the woman whose leaving alone during his absence from home, and is brought about by the amiltion of his family for seeind distinction and design to get out of the decarines of life on a cattle tranch, and its frentier town to the gradual winning ore; of a man to the faith of the woman whose leaving and accommanded in the faith of the woman whose leaving the faith at last led lim to a granter and more fashionable cir-

ir always welcome, but comes so seldom bigh-class performance. Two bright an

STATE OF STA

the new finith of Christianity were hunted like wild beauts and out to death in the Homan areins for the annacement of a pagent nation, is the scene of the action of the play. The love of Marcus Superbox a noble justician, for a Christian randen is the control flee around which the story is constructed, a story that relied of the gradual winning over of a man to the faith of the woman whose beauty abone at first attracted him, but whose party and strength of faith at last led him to a martyr's doom in the areas. Mr. Earsett has alternated between the scenes of profileate luxury of the paganear and the simple purity and patient suffering in the despised Christians, thus heightquing the effect of each. The endorsement of prominant elegisms, both in this country and in England, is in a measure, responsible for its continued success.

This will be the last opportunity to see Mr. Dairon as Marcus, as next season he will be the last opportunity to see Mr. Dairon as Marcus, as next season he will be the last opportunity to see a full be the last opportunity to see a full be the last opportunity to see the will be a hoppered for this work a engagement and fine down in his peaceful way home crown he he will be a hoppered for this work a engagement and the crown points guasant his band, and the seems of hurred as what will be a despite will be also continued the country of the day, and "The Amazons" is one of his most happy inspiradons. It is a reflact, wholesone, high-ches counted, with the city, and social relection has smoothed with the funniest of situations.

The story treats of the accentricities of a mance may be a long to the day, and "The Amazons" is one of his most happy inspiradons. It is a reflact, wholesone, high-ches counted and the scene teems with amusing incidence of the country of the day, and "The Amazons" is one of his most happy inspiradons. It is a reflact, wholesone, high-ches counted and the scene teems with an amusing incidence of the country of the day, and "The Amazons" is one of his most happy

At first mance it is observed that all Bilou Theatre this week, and the pu



enlarge Neil torses of the efficial was and gown and stay-spe past her disconflicted the stay of the first and Land Lovelace's arms, borne to the King's Theories in Lovel derives are the state of the results of the r

brough the entire wifeer had it not ber tregents who packed the house wherever it was played.

"What was the result? Managers at once set to work to statata plays that by their title and subject would appeal to those who know only of the stage what they have bearined from The Stage of the Cross? playwriters began reading sagred history in search of material for dramas; one of them turned from the writing of comic operas to dramming Quo Vadis; cleraymen not only commanced to attend performances of pierce whose titles suggested a religious subject. The Christian, The Lattle Minister, and Ben Hur but in many cases to preach and write of the wholesome firthernes of such plays; and, most important of all for the future of the religious drama, the box office receipts proved to be much more satisfactory and the runs longer than during the stage." re. "Arisona is unfoutteen re. "Arisona is unfoutteen America o play that her been carly, and Augustin Thomas edit the best and truest exponent of the American drama. The pulse is full of atmosphere, it fairly pulses with the fresh, vigorous, and active life of the West. It has a love story as tender and almost as track as the of "Romee and Juliet," and it has a relief work of human as the and unclusing that which Mr. Thomas has previously shown in "Alabama" and "In Mizzolira".

## The National-N. C. Loodwin.

The National-N, C. Goodwin.

Mr. N. C. Goodwin and Miss Maxins Elliott will play an emptyment at the New National Theatre next week, in their last scarces success, "When We Ware Twenty-one." This comedy, written by Henry V. Exmond, gives to Mr. Goodwin and Miss Elliott one of the best plays they have ever had. Mr. Goodwin's character. Diek Aarew, has serious as well as homorous moments, showing the versatility of the actor, and is the most sympathetic role he has ever portrayed, with Missiliant has never been seen to better advantage than in the pair of Faylli Ericanom, the buryant and isnder girl who whose the love of the eiderly Richard Carewo.

The Academy-"Across the Pacific." Charles E. Blancy's latest play, "Across the Pacific," will be presented at the Academy next week. It is reputed to be one of the finest war productions ever seen on the stage. Harry Chir Blaney keeps the audience in a state of laughter with his clever specialties. Mr. Blaney appears as "Willie Live," a war correspondent for a San Francisco newspaper. A brass band, which travels with the company is one of its features.

The company is a large one and includes Robert Gaillard. Lesde Mathews. J. P. Tucker, O Kane Hillis, Chinese Johnnie Williams, Frank Sanford, John Carlyle, the Miners Quaristic, Pearl Seward, Grace Hull, Anna Layug, and others. Academy next week. It is reputed to be

### The Grand - Otis Harlan in Vandeville.

Otis Harlan, the latest comedian to succumb to the golden allurements of the vaudeville managers, has been engaged by Manager Chase for the New Grand next week. Mr. Harlan has been making the public laugh ever since he appeared in Hoyts "A Black Sheep," and recently was seen here in "The Star and Garter" with the Agoust family of jugglers. He is one of the most versatife of actors, and his run is of the unctuous kind. He will deliver a monologue and should prove one leliver a monologue and should prove of if the best drawing cards of the season

### THE PASSING SHOW.

An event to which thearrical Washington invariably looks forward with great pleasure and anticipation is the annual engagement of Annie Russell, one of Charles Frohman's most ariistic and delightful stars. Miss Russell has been called charming, refreshing, and dainty along with all their synonyms, until the supply of adjectives has been well-nigh exhausted in describing her. The best part of it seems to be that they all fit ber like the proverbial glove, and she is greeted regularly by large audiences, composed for the most part of the ultra-fashionable set at the Capital. Miss Russell combines the art of the actress with the charm of the woman so closely that it is difficult to say just which predominates. Then she is usually surrounded by a splendid company, at whose hands the play receives its best interpretation.

I made my debut when I was eight years old, said Miss Russell to a Times representative one night during the week, as one of two children in a play called Miss Moulton, and wijk the exception of three years of invalidism, I have been act.

its, who is any whose names the play receives its best interpretation.

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I made don't said Miss flanged to a trues of the play and miss of the play and miss flanged to a true state of two childrengia a play called its peaks about on, and wijn't the exception of the years of invalidious in have been actually been and the programme, attreet that the programme, attreet that the programme, attreet that he programme, attreet the p

Heebert Kelrey and Effic Shannon have alled in Wallack's Theatre, New York a what the critics say is a bad dramari utlon of Manon Lessaul. Sundry other runningations are now threatened an fanon promises to foom up as the craze at season mate as Nell Gwynn has been

this season. It is worth poting, by the way that it is worth poting, by the way that Bandoloh Harries and George Taggeri made a dramatic version of the famous bacel last summer for Bertl Hone, and the will probably produce it soon. Their version is said to possess real dramatic value, which, according to the critics, the Kelcey-Shannon does not.

Should Milliten, who has made a hit as J. Fersen De Argelfs leading hay in "A Royal Rogae," has been acclaimed as a wonder for one who leaped into most calculated straight from the legitimate drams. But the knowing ones who have written her down as such do not seem to recall that she served an apprenticeship in the late Augustin Daly's musical company, thus which no school could have been better.

The America Bingham company will remain practically infact next season, Miss Blogforn having extended her contracts with the principal members of the organization new appearing in "The Climbers" it the Bjon Theatre. Those re-engaged notate Robert Edeson Frank Worthing, Ferdinand Gottschaft, John Flood, James Bonnett Sturgts, Edward Morchad, Henry Warwick, Minute Dupres, Clara Bloodnood, Madge Catt Cook, and Florence Lloyd.

Charles Dalton, the leading man of "The Sign of the Cross" company, says regard-ing the influence of Wilson Barreti's cele-brated religious play on the modern dra-

When Mr. Barrett agreemed an class rate and comity production of The Sign.
of the Cross at the Lyric Theatre some

govers' who packed the house whereve

Not the least important part of Exra

When the next theatrical season open it is very probable that a new star will be deshing in the firmament of Shakespearson tragedy—a star of megaliude, whose scintiliations will curse other bo-dies in the thearical b atoms to pale into the installicance of nebulous described. May Irwin threatens to play Juliet?

The making of this announcement is authorized by the belly comedience, who

Not the least important part of Eara Kendall, who is at Chase's Theatre this week, is a tall, ancient life. Kendall has always affected hats of ancient lineage in his monogue, and the one he is now using was made over thirty years ago, it holds its age well, and the fur is yet in excellent condition. The comedian bought it in Baltimore several years ago, "I was frightfully afraid I was not going to get it." he said, in speaking of his beaver. "It was first that I wanted and I feared the old gentleman who sold it to me would go back on his bargain. He told me it was over thirty years old, and it looks the part. I have received many compliment has bout it. It certainly is a corker. It would have to be a high compilment that would be as elevated as the tile, however."

Besides his hat, Mr. Kendall carries the smallest trank of any artist in the vaudeville business. Even the trunk meel by Chiquita is much larger than the comedian s. It is a bat box. It is staffs the hat in the regular aperture made for it, places his shoes one on each side, his collar and cuffs and the in the hat, and says he takes no chances about he being misearried. As he uses no make-up or costume, other than changing his collar, his complete wardrobe is carried in the hat box.

Search the list of stage favorites for Search the list of stage favorites for

seasons back and no more popular or widely known actress can be found than Della Fox, whose fame may be dated from the time when she was first asso-ciated with De Wolf Hopper, in whose ciated with De Wolf Hopper, in whose productions she was—to put it plainly—half the show. The comic opera, or the musical comedy stage, as it now appears to have become, has brought out many comediennes in the past five years—women famed for their beauty, soubrettes who have burst forth into the public eye through some possible eccentricity, but withal there is none to be found who can truly claim to be in just the same class.

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forms in introducing standerille novelbes here. In speaking of his plans and communities to sold:

First of all, I have been formante is securing the "Fagrant of All Nations which has run the whole someon in Hoston, it is a series of wonderful acquestion, it is a series of wonderful acquestion, it is a series of wonderful acquestion to prove the most artistle and satharations of any soung wonen, I expect it to prove the most artistle and satharations of any of the numerous shadout acts we arcsented in my house. Another considering important educacement in that of Marcels Tholeau Vivania, which was brought to this country arity this season and has not been seen outside of New York. It surpresses in beauty and novelty anything of the knot that has ever been attempted. Another booking is the "An Studies," which is the vanderille houses and which possess granting arithic beauty being verifiable transductions of some of the words arcsets artists. Famy flexible version or Nell Glayri is still another contract. I have made. The play is by Mr Hothert Griffin Morris, a playwright whitever in this city some years ago, and in it Miss Ries has soured a promineed success in vandeville. I shall bring Mr. Billerd back in 'The Littlest Girl,' by all odds the best drammtic steeted I have ever witnessed, and one that makes a Straig impression upon an anadience. The Strakesch Opera Company, headed by Avery Strikosch, the well-known orima doman, will be along this epithe managers. Mea pleasing of all, in an arrivele series, is the meant rath Caster, are in great demand anong viandeville managers. Mea pleasing of all, in an arrivele series, is the news that Class Joftes will be seen her shortly. Miss Loftes is niming high so has abounded when control are signed.

It is each talk as the following, a verifiable record of a conversation potwer.

It is such talk as the following, a verthat record of a conversation between two young women who are emograf it one of Washington's prominent stor-th it drives strong men to despair and in-cidentally beightens the gayety of the ountry. The speakers posside over ad-cinate counters and neither scenningly takes the slightest notice of the half dog

times the slightest notice of the half doc-en or so impation costomers:
"Say, Mambe, I was up and seen the stock complete List defit with flarry."
"The just perfectly g-s-a-n-d. Ormorde is the sweetest thing in the world. Say, do you know that Percy Hassell's hos-band was here last week in that "Un-leggened Bread show over at the Colum-bia?"

"Was he".
"Yes, his name is Passett, or something like that."
"Buh-it isn't a very swell name, is n't". It sh't half so pretty as Ormonde. Blanche Bates is coming to the Columbia soon in her play 'Under Two Flags.

wouldn't miss the Thursday matibee for anything. You know that's the enly chance Ormonde will have to go, and I just want to see the way he looks at her-you, know he was awfully in love with her.

authorized by the beity consedence, who has been scaling the altitudes of comedy for several years and who now posses in as lafty a phrascie of success that she requires a styriless in discern competitors struggling below here so her press agent states in a burst of confidence unusual for one engaged in an occupation of which the chief requisites are redicence and modesty.

But comedy has been to pall on Mbs Irwin. She has so funny at all times mother betrayal of the press agent's confidence—that she has contracted insomnia from string up nights to lating at the comical things that suggest themselves to her. This sort of thing, of course, distresses her, for in this era of saug litting garments it is impossible for one to laugh, allently in one's sieve, and her explosious of mirth are prone to disturb other patrons of the hatels in which she abldes while triumphantly in teansit. Therefore, Mss frwin has about concluded to abandon the merry ang, the footlight chortle, the gay quip, the festive come-hack, and other wiles of the comodience and have herself warped hat in a balcony with other Juillets.

"Why shouldn't I risay Juliet." demands

while triumponents in beneath. Personnel on the rever size, the position to context size of the counciderine and other withes of the contections and other withes of the contections and other with the same of Nell Gwyn, and the same of the contection of the content of the cont

The Rentz Santley is about the oni structions which M. B. Leavitt at one time ewoed and directed, and its survival and popularity may in a large measure e attributed to the shrewdness of Abs Leavitt, one of his brothers, who for

be attributed to the shrewdness of Abe Leavill, one of his brothers, who for years wan its advance agent, and who, when the crash came that sent his brother to the wall, incate-ally assumed control of the organization, and has temporary to the wall, incate-ally assumed control of the organization, and has temporary the same that a transfer his profile of the organization, and has temporary to the same transfer of a control of the parallel of the analysis of the same and reputation while his brother gets nothing but a guildrer of a control ago. Another farefiers from who managed the Rouge-saulty company when Abe was in advance, died recently, but not before his bed established two the stress at Parallel of the first of the f

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town. It is in clipde Pitch's merriest and most brightly satiriest vein, and has a love story of infinite charm. The production as devised by William A. Brady, is without a flaw. Every player fits the character assumed, but special honors fall to Evrast Hastings as the minister, Millip James as the little hoyden, "Samplicity," Charles W. Swain as the opera house manager and bill poster. Nanotte Commiscions the clergyman a sweatheart, and Emily Walterman as the schoolmistress.

The upple orchard, the lovers walk, and the quaint street scree in Eddywille are very heautiful stage pictures. In Lovers Lanc. Mr. Brady has found a playe as pleasing and popular as "Way Down East."

"The Silver Silpser," a new musical the Saver Shoser, a new museous comedy by Owen Hall and Lesile Stuart, composers of "Florodern," will be produced in Leudon Tuesday night. The American rights to the piece have been secured by John P. Fisher, manager of "Floroders," who will bring it over here lext season.

Florodors, who will bring it over here next season.

Nell Gwyn has been used as the rentral figure of several stage plays, as well as in Paul Kesser's comedy drama. Sweet Nell of Old Durty," In which Klaw & Erlanger present Ada Rehau in the titls role. The first Neil Gwyn play of which there is any historical knowledge was entitled "Nell Gwyn; or The Prologue," written by Dunglas Jerrold and onesuted it Covent Gurlen, London, in January, 182. The author in his preface to the play says; "White we may safely relect as unfounded georgic production of the following savelested with the pame of Nell Gwyn, one cannot refuse belief to the various proofs of kind-hearriedness, liberality, and—taking into consideration her subsequent power to do harm—absolute godness of a woman mingling from her earliest years in the most deprayed scenes of a most dissolute age.

This play was founded on the famous. "Hat" incident. The second play on the subject was a musical extravaginza acted at the Royalty on January Il 181, with Emmeline Cole as Nell, Rose Coghian as Charles, and Arthur Williams as the Duchess of Cleveland On May I, 183, at the same theater, Emely Fowler appeared as Nell in the first representation of the play by W. G. Wills. The comic opera, music by Robert Planquette, with a libretto by H. B. Parnie, was given at the Acenne Theatre, London, February I, 183, with Florence St. John as the heroine, These various stage representations were more or less successful, but it remained for the first production of Mr. Kester's play at the Gurrick, Londor, last season, with the beautiful Julia Neilson in the little role, to set all England talking and to start a certiable Nell Gwyn craze. The play run all has season to enormous houses. Klaw & Erianger, discerning that the character of Nell Gwyn craze. The play run all has season on peculiarly fitted to Ada Rehan's undenlably great dramatle gifts, secured the American rights.

Phoebe Davies, who is to personate the title role when William A. Brady and

has to play to almost empty benches in alay that costs a mere song.

The same is equally true of the dramamed novels: it is safe to say that if Mr. homas. Mr. Fitch, or some other first-lass dramatist had been engaged to annatize some of the novels which have set so butchered this winter. The result I least would mave been something that ore some semblance to a play. The day time when this experiment was tried its year it proved a great success. Faul I Potter, a practical playwright, was sugged to dramatize. "Under Two high a result was a melodramamic, however it may offend some of unda's adherents by the way in which has twisted her story, is a ripping good insational drama, and one which, in the car run, will coin more money than all a land, halt, blind, and knock-kneed camatizations put together.

The stock company which can for two scassons at the Larcaim Theatre, Daid-ingre, under the direction of 2. W. Albeitch, jr. will be revived for a summer season, with as many of the original members as can be secured. The house is leased for a term of years by Manager Chase, of the Grand, of this city,

Charles Delton, the English actor who